Met Office

NEWS

Staying windy following Storm Ellen – August 2020

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Storm Ellen brought very strong winds and heavy rain to parts of the UK and Ireland through Wednesday night, with further wind warnings in place on Thursday and Friday.

Strong wind impacts

The unseasonably deep Atlantic low-pressure system brought very strong winds and impacts across the island of Ireland, with power cuts and reports of roads blocked by fallen trees in Northern Ireland. Wind gusts of 62mph were recorded in Fermanagh early on Thursday morning, with 79mph recorded at Capel Curig, north Wales.

Enniskillen RNLI
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We were tasked at 3.46am to two boats moored at Devenish West jetty and we're breaking their moorings. Volunteer crew reassured the 6 passengers and secured the boats. All 6 people were brought safely into Enniskillen via lifeboat.

7:00 AM · Aug 20, 2020

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National Severe Weather Warning

Met Office Chief Meteorologist, Paul Gunderson said: “Storm Ellen was a very lively storm for this time of year and although the main system has mostly dissipated, we’ll continue to see strong winds across western parts of the UK today spreading to eastern areas tomorrow, with several yellow wind warnings in place.”

“South-westerly winds will pick up once again through the Irish Sea this evening, with gusts of 55-65mph possible across western parts of Scotland and Wales, southwest England and eastern parts of Northern Ireland. Along with impacts from strong winds, we’ll see bands of heavy rain and squally showers with the risk of thunder and lightning.

“During the early hours of Friday the wind will pick up more widely across much of England, Wales and southern Scotland, with gusts of 45-50mph inland and 55-60mph around coasts and over hills.

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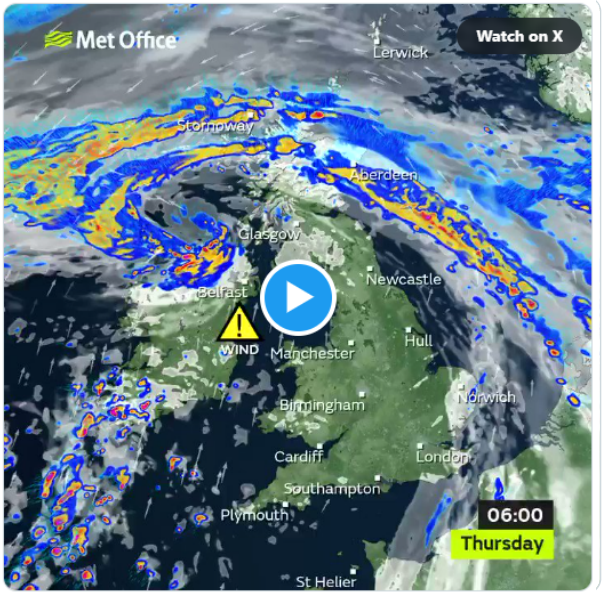
The centre of #StormEllen will have moved away to the north of Ireland by the morning, but western parts of Britain will continue to see strong winds

Many places will be dry with the best of the sunny spells and light winds in the east.



9:00 PM · Aug 19, 2020

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Unsettled weather

Deputy Meteorologist at the Met Office, Dave Oliver said: “Along with the sometimes heavy rain, strong winds have the potential to cause impacts that are not common in August. With this spell of unsettled weather coinciding with trees in full

leaf and a peak in the camping season, wind-related impacts are more likely at lower wind speeds compared to other times of the year."

Driving conditions

RAC Breakdown spokesperson Rod Dennis said: "This spell of autumnal-feeling weather is going to make driving conditions very unpleasant for a lot of us over the next few days. Strong winds will mean journeys by road will take longer than usual, and could be affected by fallen branches on the roads. Add in some very intense rainfall and drivers will need to take real care to complete their trips safely.

"We urge every driver heading out to make sure their car is up to the task to avoid a breakdown in the wind and rain, especially if they're towing or taking a longer trip – in particular check the condition and pressure of all tyres before setting out. When driving, slow down and pay close attention to high-sided vehicles and other drivers with caravans and trailers to give yourself plenty of time to react should any run into difficulties."

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